

REMARKS

The present application was filed on January 5, 2004 with claims 1 through 42. Claims 38-42 were cancelled in the Amendment and Response to Office Action dated December 13, 2005. Claims 21-23 and 29-35 were withdrawn due to a restriction requirement. Claims 1-5 20 were cancelled in the Amendment and Response to Office Action dated January 29, 2008. Claims 24, 27, and 28 are proposed to be amended and claims 21-23 and 29-35 are proposed to be cancelled herein, without prejudice. Claims 24-28, 36 and 37 are presently pending in the above-identified patent application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to claims 24-28, 36, and 37 10 because of indicated informalities and rejected claims 24-28, 36, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has also rejected claims 24-28, 36 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Folmsbee (United States Patent No. 5,386,151).

15 Formal Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 24-28, 36, and 37 because of indicated informalities. In particular, the Examiner asserts that the text of independent claim 24 has to end with a period.

Applicants note that independent claim 24 has been amended to end with a period.

20 Section 112 Rejections

Claims 24-28, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 24, 27, and 28 have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns 25 and Applicants respectfully request that the section 112 rejections be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 24

Independent claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Folmsbee. In particular, the Examiner asserts that Folmsbee discloses determining that a voltage on a signal line (signal line from VDD to node 125) is to be amplified; and modifying voltage on

a control line φ' (providing clock input φ' under gate of MOS capacitor 130) (col. 4, lines 1-33), wherein the control line is coupled to a second terminal (source-drain terminal) of a two terminal semiconductor device (MOS capacitor 130).

Applicants note that the Examiner equates the signal line of claim 24 with the line from VDD to node 125. Applicants note that a signal line carries information, as would be apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art. The IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronic Terms defines a signal as, *for example*, "...carrying binary true/ false logic values." The line from VDD to node 125 does *not* carry information.

In addition, MOS capacitor 130 is a three terminal device (gate, source, and drain), as would be apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art. The connection of the source terminal to the drain terminal does *not* reduce the terminal count of the device.

Thus, Folmsbee does not disclose or suggest determining that a voltage on a signal line is to be amplified and does not disclose or suggest wherein the control line is coupled to a second terminal of a two terminal semiconductor device, as required by independent claim 24.

Dependent Claims 25-28, 36 and 37

Dependent claims 25-28, 36, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Folmsbee.

Claims 25-28, 36, and 37 are dependent on claim 24 and are therefore patentably distinguished over Folmsbee because of their dependency from amended independent claim 24 for the reasons set forth above, as well as other elements these claims add in combination to their base claim.

Since all of the pending claims following entry of the amendments, i.e., claims 24-28, 36 and 37, are in condition for allowance, such favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Examiner's attention to this matter is greatly appreciated

Respectfully submitted,



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5

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10